

# Engage and Listen Checklist



How do we engage with community partners and identify local priorities, especially among communities most impacted by climate change?

This section focuses on engaging stakeholders in meaningful dialogue to better understand community concerns and community-identified solutions.

## Prepare to Engage

- Review a summary of [Lessons Learned](#) from Local Public Health Authorities who led previous Climate and Health Planning efforts in Oregon.
- Send your draft Climate Risk Profile to existing partners and ask them to review the document and provide feedback. You can then use your local Climate Risk Profile to communicate local climate risks and priorities. It will also help to guide your planning efforts as you move forward.
- Become familiar with community strengths and resources through existing plans, partnerships and research. Locate and review:
  - Your health department's Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)
  - Other plans in your jurisdiction that relate to climate and health. This could include comprehensive plans, preparedness plans, and even strategic plans of Community Based Organizations who serve vulnerable populations in your jurisdiction
- Develop a stakeholder engagement plan for your planning process. Consider using this [stakeholder engagement plan template](#).

## Reach Out and Listen

When reviewing plans and meeting with community leaders, take note of community strengths and assets that could be further leveraged. Consider the options below as suggestions for engaging community partners and adapt as needed to fit your capacity.

- Host a community event to ground-truth your assessments. The event can be organized in different ways. You could present your new local Climate Risk Profile, invite guest speakers, break out into workgroups by topic, or show a film to facilitate dialogue. This [Local Climate Events](#) tool provides a summary of recent community events that have occurred over the last few years in Oregon – each takes a slightly different approach. Consider using one of these events to model your public outreach. If you host an event, don't forget to take photos!
- Gather community input to better understand concerns, priorities, and community solutions. You can use this [Story Project](#) tool to explore different methods for engaging with community leaders. .At this point in the process, engagement can be more open-ended and can help you “take the pulse” on how community members are thinking about climate change and health.
- Develop a survey tool that can help to identify the concerns and solutions that are most important to community-based organizations in your jurisdiction. The survey can also ask about existing efforts and opportunities for partnership.
- Develop a system for recording the input you receive. Continue to compile opportunities and strategies that arise through conversations with stakeholders and partners. You will want to keep a running record of suggested actions, partnerships, and contacts for future action.
- Create and share a summary of your community engagement findings. Consider how you can include both quantitative and qualitative findings.